

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 remain in this Application. The Examiner has acknowledged that Claims 1-9 and 19-25 are directed to allowable subject matter.

The Examiner has objected to Claims 11-13 and 16 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Pursuant to 37 CFR Section 1.111(b), Applicant requests that the Examiner's objection to Claims 11-13 and 16 be held in abeyance. If the Examiner should be persuaded by this response to allow independent base claim from which the objected-to claims depend, the basis for the objection will be removed.

The Examiner has imposed a requirement for restriction between Claims 1-25, constituting Group I and Claims 26-31 constituting Group II. Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group I (Claims 1-25) and reserves the right to submit Claims 26-31 in a continuation application. Accordingly, Claims 26-31 have been withdrawn without prejudice.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In view of the amending of Claim 14, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is deemed overcome and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 10, 15, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,720,718, which issued to Trent et al and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,188,164, which issued to Brown et al.

Independent Claim 10 has been amended to further define the invention. More specifically, Claim 10 has been amended to define that the end of the single-ended lamp capsule having the first and second lead wires is clamped between respective second ends of the first and second substantially identical rigid frames. Support for this amended is found in the Specification, in particular, FIG. 13.

Trent et al relates to lamp containing a single-ended tungsten halogen capsule.

Brown et al relates to lamp containing a double-ended arc tube. The lamp of Brown et al includes a mount assembly having first and second axially aligned banding straps. Each of the straps has a closed crimp section and an open crimp section. The

straps are positioned so that an open crimp section of one strap overlies a closed crimp section of the other strap. The mount assembly also includes a mount frame comprised of two elongated rods which are affixed to the banding straps mounted upon the glass stem of the lamp.

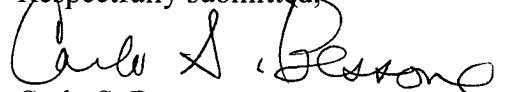
Applicant respectfully submits that the references taken singly or in combination fail to teach an electric lamp as defined in Claim 10. For example, the references fail to teach or suggest a retainer comprising first and second substantially identical rigid frames each having first and second ends and first and second sides wherein the stem of the stem assembly is clamped between respective first ends of the frames and the end of the capsule containing the first and second lead wires is clamped between respective second ends of the frames.

Absent such teaching or suggestion, the invention as defined by independent Claim 10 is deemed fully patentable over the above references. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 and allowance of independent Claim 10 is respectfully urged.

Applicant's Claims 15, 17 and 18 are dependent on independent Claims 10, and therefore include all recitations thereof. Moreover, Applicant's dependent claims include additional limitations that, when combined with the recitations in Claim 10, render these claims further distinct and non-obvious over the cited references. Therefore, Claims 15, 17 and 18 are likewise deemed allowable.

The Application with Claims 1-25 is deemed in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully urged. Should the Examiner believe that minor differences exist which, if overcome, would pass the Application to allowance and that said differences can be discussed in a phone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to phone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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